(ख) साबरमती नदी के बारे में गुजरात राज्य सरकार से प्रस्ताव फरवरी, 1994 में प्राप्त हुआ था ।

Poachers' Gangs in Madhya Pradesh

4533. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the report which appeared in the Tribune of April 3, 1995, captioned, "Poachers on Killing spree in Madhya Pradesh".

(b) if so, whether Government have since caused a probe into the alleged operation of organised gangs of poachers, trading in tiger bones, panther skins and hides of antelepes and deer, with international remlfications; if so, that outcome thereof; and

(c) what is Government's reaction and response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Tiger Cell under the chairmanship of I. G. Police (Crime) has been set up by the Government of Madhya Pradesh to ensure coordination between the Forests and Police personnel to investigate against poachers and ensure steps to prevent poaching. Some seizures and arrests have already taken place.

(c) The Government of India and the State Government of Madhya Pradesh are committed to ensure protection of the wildlife and their habitat and they are colloborating with each other to ensure effective functioning of this cell.

Definition of Protect Area Management

4534. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the definition of Protected Area Management in policy formulation;

(b) whether this implies that normal life in Protected Areas should be avoided;

(c) in how many sanctuaries and protected areas people have been driven out; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Protected Area Management refers to the process by which natural landscapes which are significant for their ecological, biodiversity or geomorphological values are designated as protected areas for protection, development and management. Under the provisions of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 two types of protected areas are designated viz., "Sanctuary" and "National Park".

(b) While it is necessary that all human rights in respect of lands proposed to be included in a national park have to be acquired by the State Governments, these rights can be allowed to continue in the case of a sanctuary, provided the Collector in consultation with the Chief Wildlife Warden of the State is satisfied during the process of settlement of rights that such continuance will not have any adverse effect on the sanctuary concerned.

(c) and (d) People are not driven out of protected areas. Relocation of villages is undertaken in national parks and sanctuaries as per requirement in mutual agreement with the local people. In the last 3 years relocation of villages has been done from Pench National Park of Madhya Pradesh and Pakhui sanctuary of Arunachal Pradesh. Relocation of villages is under progress in the Bandipur Tiger Reserve (Karnataka), Blue Mountain National Park (Mizoram), and Gorumara National Park (West Bengal).

Establishment of Snake Parks

4535. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme to encourage State Governments to establish snake parks and centres for venom extraction;

(b) whether this idea has been discussed with various State Governments;

(c) if so, whether there is any proposal from Government of Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) the details of assistance to be given to States to establish snake parks and involve the tribals, traditionally involved in this profession?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): ((a) No, Sir.

(b) According to available information, the existing institutions are adequate to meet the requirement for production of anti-snake venom serum and therefore this idea has not been discussed with various State Governments.

(c) No such proposal has been received from the Govt. of Andhra Pradesh.

(d) No assistance is proposed to be given to states to establish snake parks and involve tribals in this profession.

Purification of Himalayan rivers in Uttar Pradesh

4536. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that millions of pilgrims and tourists visit Badrinath, Kedarnath, Hemkund Saheb, Yamunotri, Gangotri and other places in U.P. Himalayas, if so, what is the estimated number of such visitors;

(b) whether Government are aware that due to inadequate hygienic facilities, the river system of Ganga and Yamuna is polluted by the seasonal influx of population;

(c) whether Government have made any arrangement to monitor the cleanliness of Ganga, Yamuna and the tributary rivers upstream from Rishikesh; if not, whether such arrangements will be made during summer months in 1995;

(d) whether Government are also aware that the sewer system of all the large towns in the eight districts of U.P. Himalayas are discharged into the rivers without any treatment; if so, what are the details and what action is taken in this regard; and

(e) what steps Government propose to take or have taken to safeguard the purity of water of the U.P. Himalayan river system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): ((a) Yes, Sir. The approximate number of